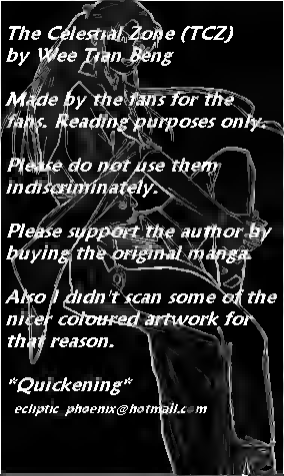
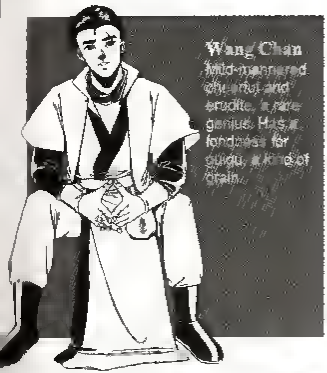
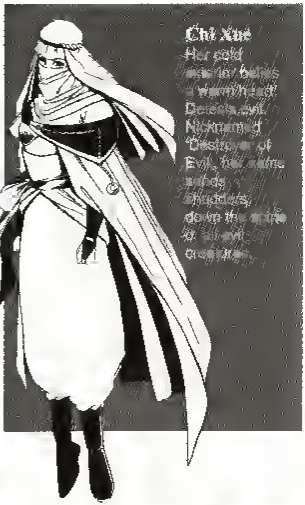

The Celestial Zone (TCZ)
by Wee Tian Beng
Made by the fans for the fans. Reading purposes only.
Please do not use them indiscriminately.
Please support the author by buying the original manga.
Also I didn't scan some of the nicer coloured artwork for that reason.
"Quickening"
ecliptic_phoenix@hotmail.com

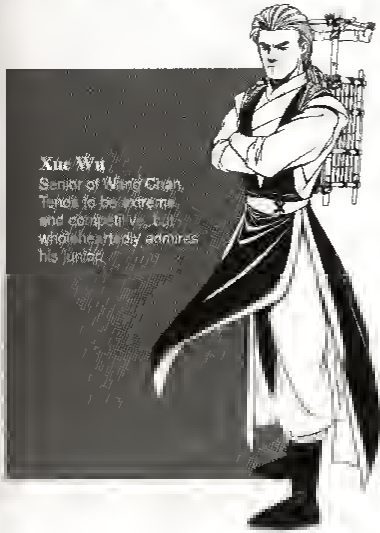
Characters in this Volume:



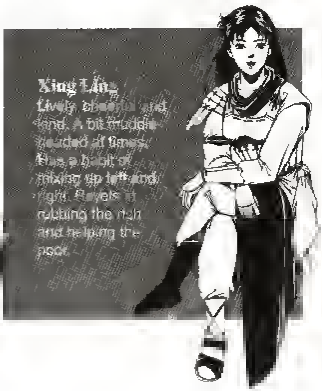
Wang Chan
Wild-mannered child and prodigy. A rare genius. Has a fondness for gugu, a kind of grain.



Chi Xue
Her gold [illegible] a warning of Demons, evil. Nightmare of Destroyer of Evil, [illegible] winds [illegible] down the [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible].



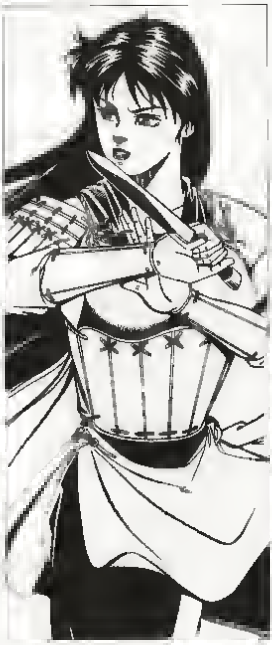
Xue Wu
Senior of Wang Chan. Tends to be extreme and competitive, but which he truly admires his [illegible].



Xing Lin
Lively, cheerful and kind. A bit trouble-headed at times. Has a habit of sticking up for and right. Revels in robbing the rich and helping the poor.

Chapter One
Bandit of Bandits **10**

Chapter Two
A Man Who's Not Human **35**



Chapter Three
What is the Celestial Zone? 67

Chapter Four
Is This Fate? 109

Introduction

The story opens with a group of grotesque cannibalistic monsters preying upon young children Who was the lady who single-handedly defeated all the monsters and led the children to safety?

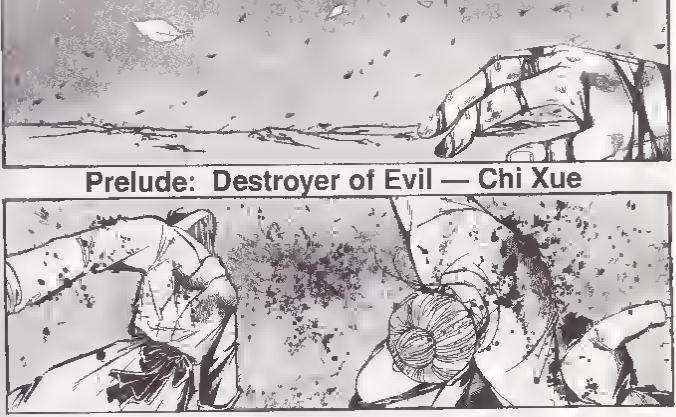
Xing Ling was a highly skilled young lady who took delight in robbing the rich and helping the poor. She crossed the paths of Xue Wu and Wang Chan, two extraordinary young men from the Celestial Zone, when they rescued her from vicious monsters

She learnt that these monsters were multiplying rapidly. She was soon to find out just how savage these monsters from the Celestial Zone were...

Quickening

Thanks for reading TCZ!
Please support the author by buying the original manga!

Prelude: Destroyer of Evil — Chi Xue

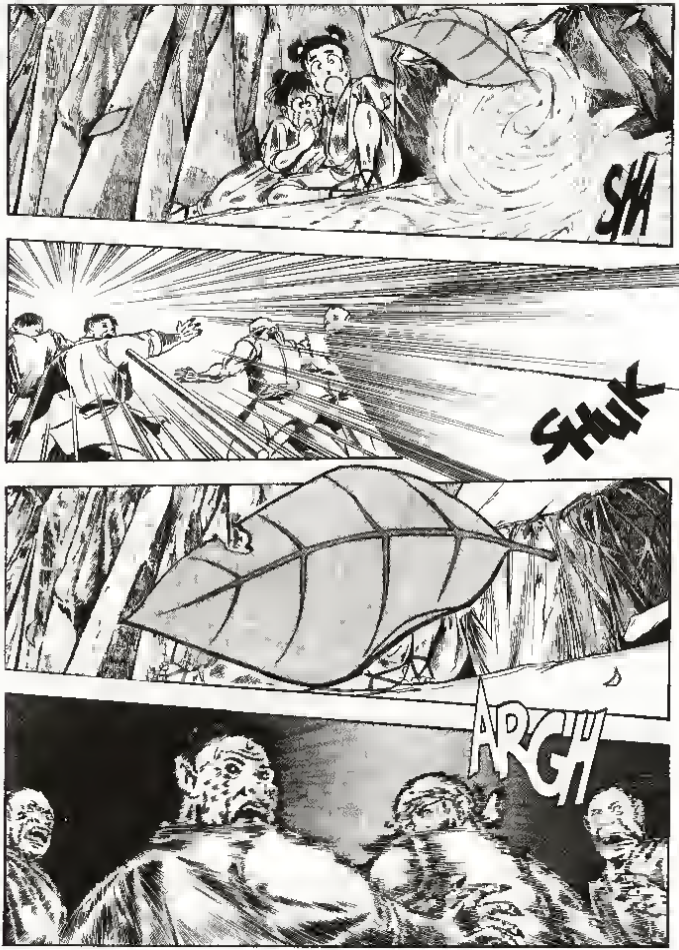


Look! Two more children here!
Ha, ha! I want their hearts!
I'm longing to taste human brain again!
Hey! I've yet to taste the flesh of a child!
Hoop

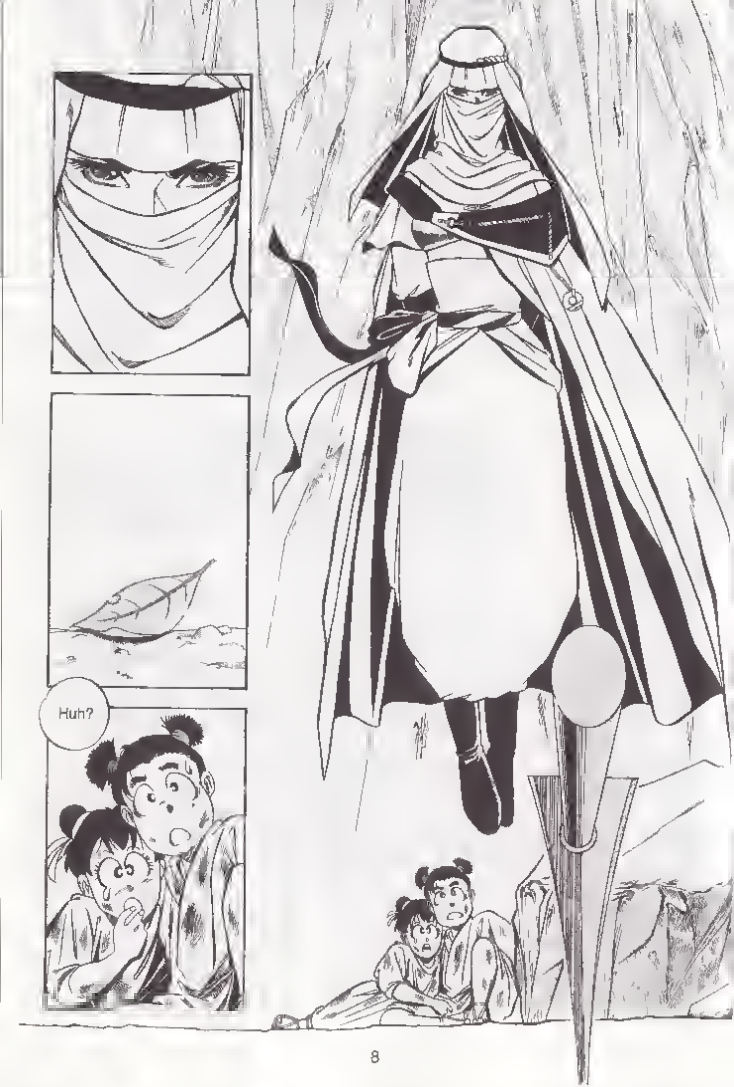
ZENG
ARGH! The red... sword!
Blood... red...
* Blood Red

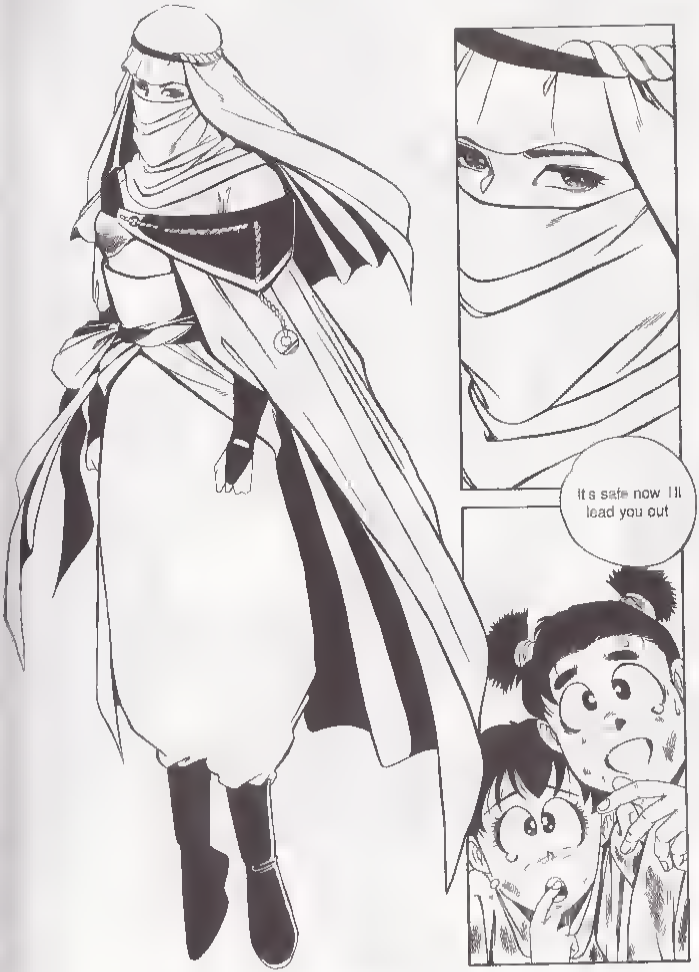
Destroyer of Evil
Chi Xue

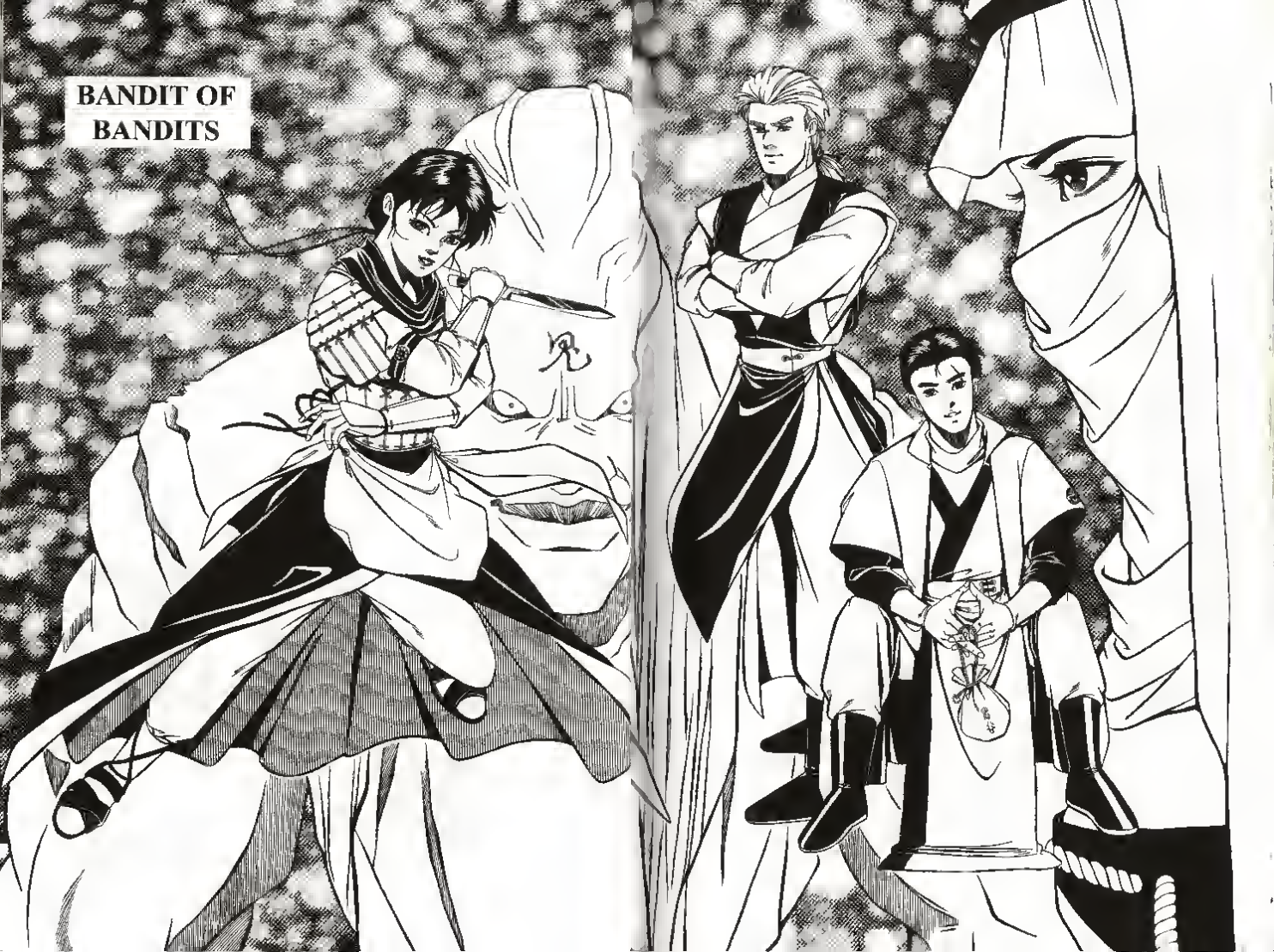
ARGH
SHUK
SWOOSH


SHA
SHUK
ARGH

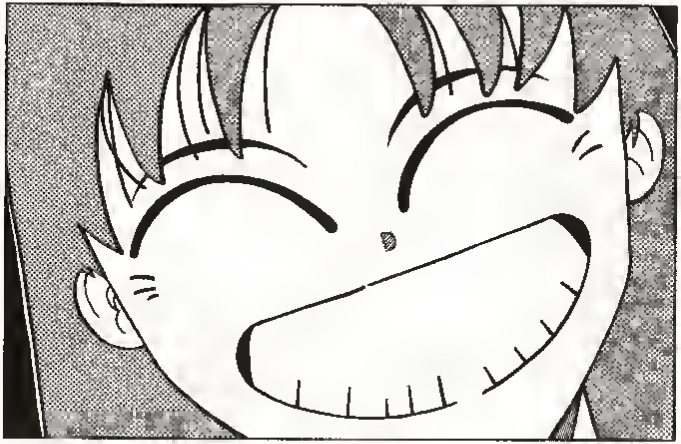
SHA
AAAA
?

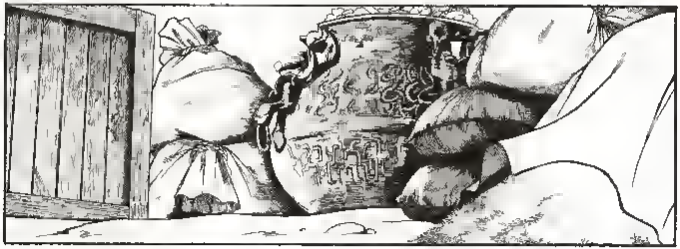

Huh?


It's safe now I'll lead you out


BANDIT OF
BANDITS

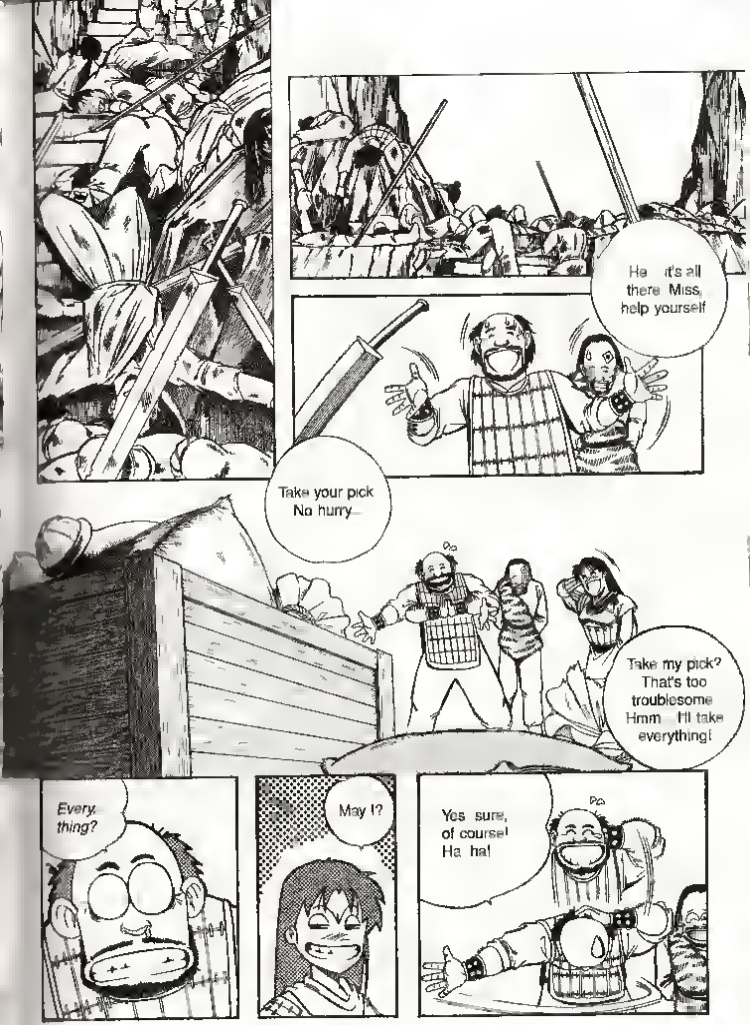
Dragon-Tiger Den

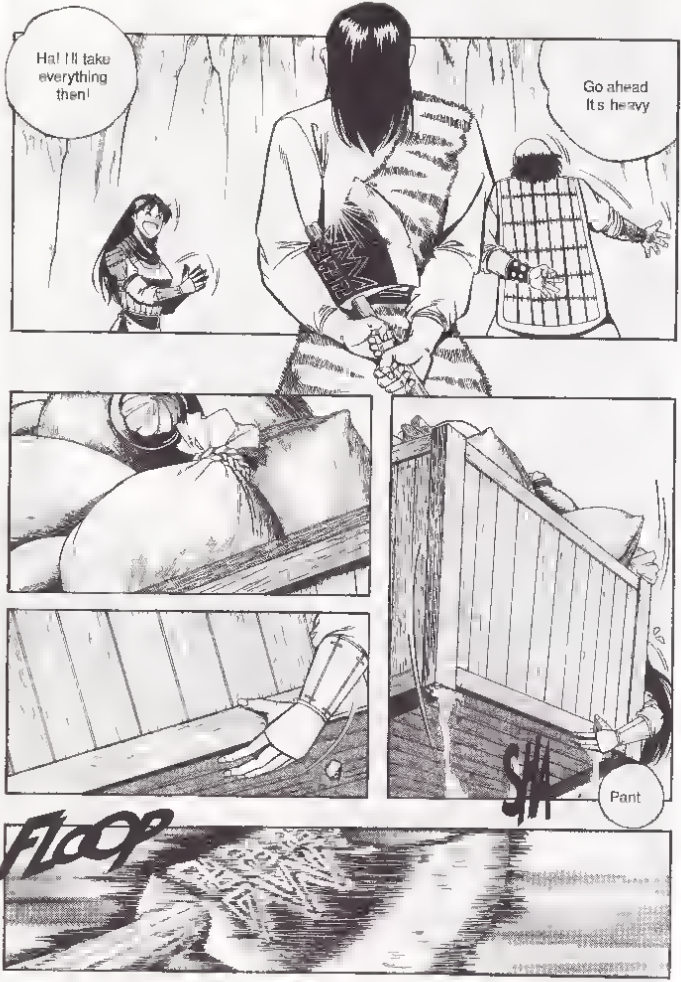


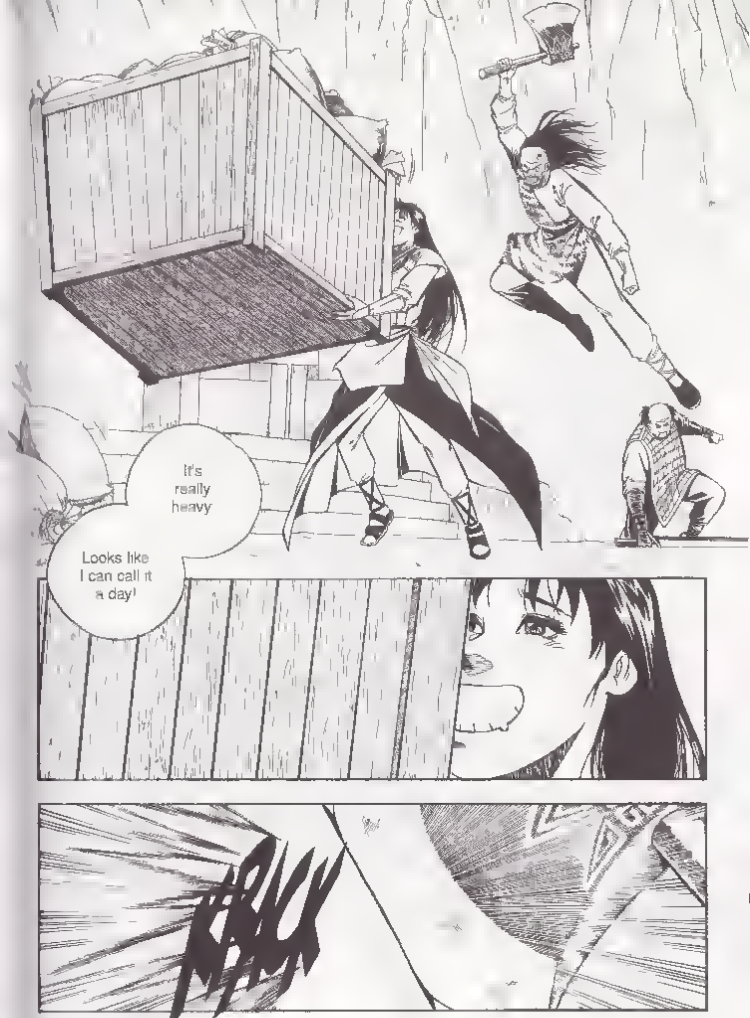


Who are you?
What are you up to?
Oh yes! Forgot to introduce myself...
I'm a bandit the bandit of bandits!
Bandit of bandits??

You must be Dragon and Tiger, the leaders here?
I hear you struck a big deal at Osmanthus Village
Since I'm passing by, I wonder if I could get something too

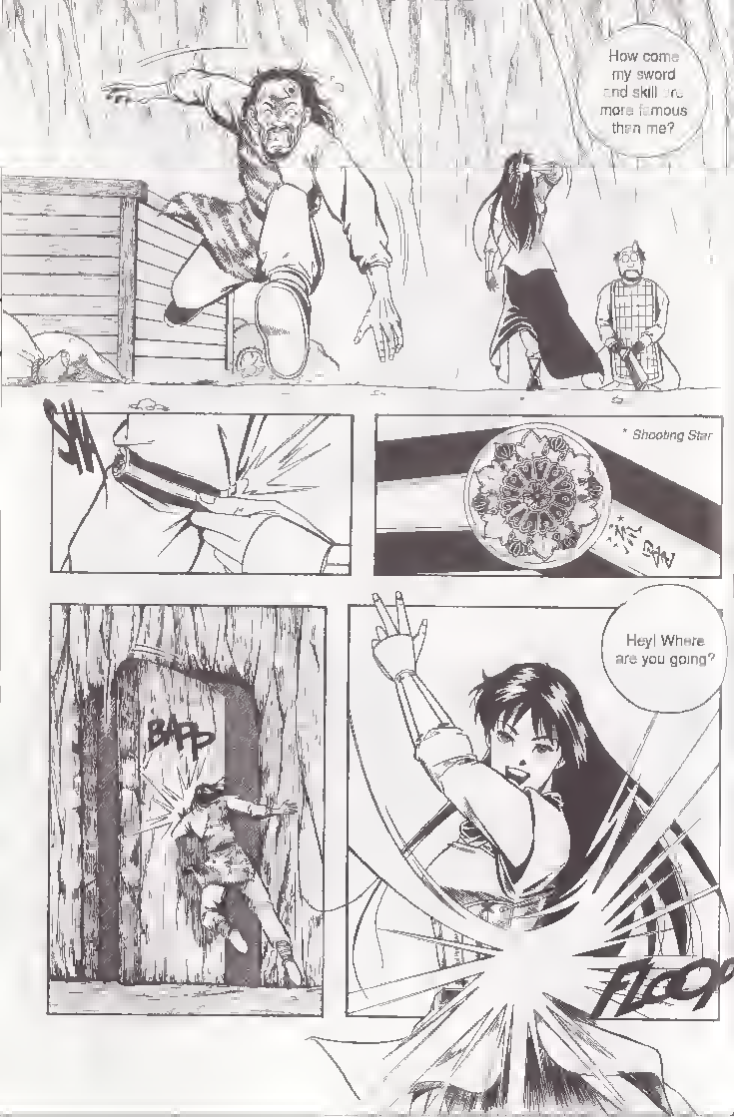

He... it's all there. Miss, help yourself
Take your pick. No hurry...
Take my pick? That's too troublesome. Hmm... I'll take everything!
Every-thing?
May I?
Yes, sure, of course! Ha, ha!


Ha! I'll take everything then!
Go ahead It's heavy
SHI
Pant
FLOOP


It's really heavy
Looks like I can call it a day!
CRACK

BANG
BOOM
FLOOP

* Fish Viscera
The Fish... Fish Viscera?!
KRAK
You're the famous... Fish Viscera and Shooting Stars?
Fish Viscera is the name of my dagger while Shooting Stars is the name of my skill.
My name is Xing Ling! It means joyful and agile!


How come my sword and skill are more famous than me?
SHA
* Shooting Star
BAM
BAPP
Hey! Where are you going?
FLOOP

BOOM
BRP
Argh
Bro ther
Fear not I never kill!

*WE ARE BANDITS!

Oh no! Not enough rapes
Happy jail term!
Ha ha! Thanks for the presents! Bye!
Oh yes I've alerted the magistrate The constables are coming! I'll take what I should.
and leave the rest as evidence

Great! A rewarding day! What joy, yippee!
Wow, so heavy!
Such fine weather!

Pant. .
pant!
Pant!
Headman!
Get up!
Get up!
BAP
BAP
Fatty, why are you making so much noise?
Look... look!
Huh?

Chief! These are the things the bandits took away from us!
Yes! The marks on the sacks were made by us!
Wow! Heaven must hava helped us!
This is great! Wonderful!
What a surprise... Ha! What a surprise!
Fatty, our ancestors and the gods of Mt Osmanthus are blessing us
Thank you, deities and ancestors!

* Osmanthus Village

Hoo!
Great! The extra pocket money from the bandits can last me for six months!
Ha ha! Must buy something to reward myself!
SHUK

!
Gosh! Where is she?
Oh no! She's gone! She was there just now!
Better find her or we'll be doomed!
HEY!!

Who told you to tail me?
Hee hee! Why don't you ask me?
BOOM

Wretch! Can't recognise me? I've been tracing you for two years!
Remember what happened at Black Ridge?
If not for your interference, my men wouldn't have been captured by the authorities!
Excuse me, my name is Xing Ling, not wretch! I don't remember the incident!
Wretch! If I were there, I would have killed you!
Cool it cool it Chief Ma
Let's do something for our brothers today!

Wretch! You've been going around showing kindness so the people thank you!
For the sake of our future we heroes of the green woods are combining forces for the first time!
He ha! You should feel so honoured that you can rest in peace!
Chief Guo let's not bully her. Just let her know at whose hands she'll die!
Imp! After what you did on the 15th day of the eighth month, I, Li Da the Black Hurricane, am the only one left of the 109 heroes of Chilly Hill!
I, Jin Zhongzhao the Flying Tiger, second-in-command of Water Tiger Sect, thank you for ruining my family!
Such old-fashioned names—
I'm Tie Busan the Tyrant Dragon of Vicious Dragon Cliff!
And I, Fang Shi, killed Tiger Lei with three blows!
Hey, wait, wait!

So many of you with so many complicated names! I can't remember all!
But why bother to tell me? Just say you're bandits, robbers and hooligans!
You're here today to avenge your brothers who are in jail, right?
Ha! Our scores must be settled by fighting. The more people, the merrier!
Sigh... after doing so much evil, you've still got the cheek to seek revenge. Shame on you!

Wretch! Still so haughty in the face of death!
Chief Ma, she's an adorable chick! Don't spoil her pretty face! She shall be my 13th concubine!
Ha! Fang Shi, before you take her, let me spend some days with her!
Ha! Chief Li, I want her for five days!
Beauty... I'll be next! Ha!
Shameless scum!
Listen: I am ANGRY!

Quickening

A MAN
WHO'S
NOT
HUMAN

AAAA

My skill is known as the Shooting Stars!
Do you know what a shooting star represents?
It is

HURRY UP!

BOOM
BANG
AGH

AAAA
FLOP

Every body
HA
COH

Well done, Chief Ma!
Hee, hee!

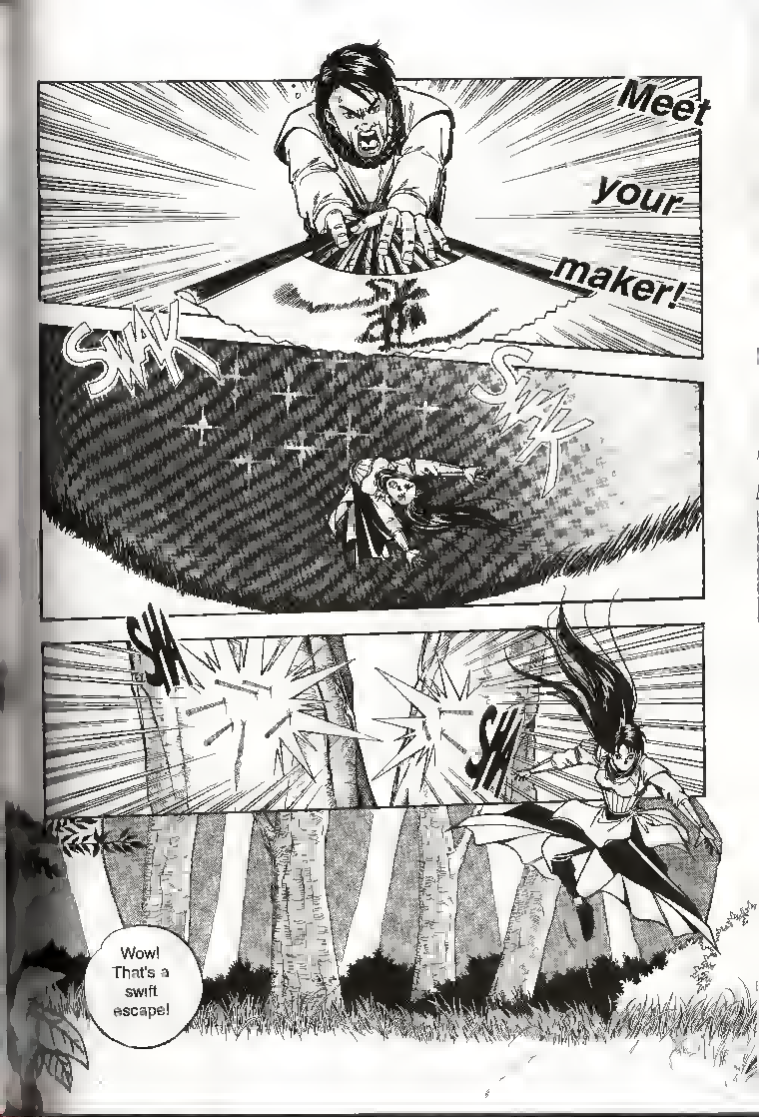
SHA
BRP
SHA

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

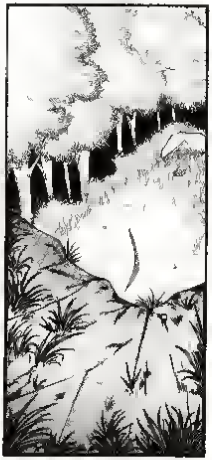
Counting from 10...
BOOP
BIP
BOOP
Nine...
Eight...
Six...
Five...
Seven...
BIP
BOOP
BOOP
Four...
Three...

BOOM
Two...
AAAA
SHA

One!
Incredible! This is
This is impossible!


Meet your maker!
SWAK
SWAK
SWK
SWK
Wow! That's a swift escape!

Ha! I enjoyed the fight! Since I've let off steam I'll let you go!
Pant...! These guys won't come round till several hours later!
I'll have enough time to get the authorities to round them up
BIPP
BIPP
But I was a bit harsh just now The physicians will have a headache
KRAKAK
AAAAA



SKH

RGH

Rescal! You woke me up from my sleep!
Argh
Ha you're courting doom!
Crack! Crack! Sound of a fracture! What a heavenly sound!
KRAK
WAH
But it's nothing compared to the tender flesh of a living man!
Let him go, you psychotic fat pig!

Aha, a little beauty! I'm in luck today! Be patient. Let me handle him before I take care of you! Wait for me, girl!
Save save me!
Let go! It's disgusting!
SKOSH
BONG
SH
Argh!

Leave quickly!
What about you?
bop
Idiot! That fat pig is tough. I'll hold him up! Don't waste time! Go!
Thank you...!
Stop being so wishy washy! And don't let me catch you doing evil again!
Hey! Psychotic fat pig! Knock me down before you go after him!
Ha, ha! If I have you, I don't need him! Wow! A pretty, adorable and sweet smelling rose!

Ha, ha! I can't wait to swallow you whole!
BAP
Disgusting!
BOOM
Ha, ha! Giving me a nice scratch?
FLOOP
BANG
Ah? She's gone?!

Ah! Watch my rapid moves!
BOOM
BOOM
BAP
Ouch! My leg! This fat pig's skin is so tough!

FLOOP
Ha, ha! Enough fun little beauty? My turn now!
BIP
FLOOP

BOO
GA
FLOO

BOM

Pant!
My kicks are no joke! They can land any ordinary man in bed for at least seven days!
This fat pig seems to exude a disturbing evil air!
SH
Wretch!
You're a good fighter, the first person who could make me feel pain! Very good!
Unhurt ?!
Are you human or not?
Ah... you really don't look like a human...
Hee, hee!
Wretch, let me tell you...
I'm not a human.
I am a GHOST!
That's swift!
SHOK

SHUK
chop

So vulnerable!
AAAA
Ah!
What.. frightening strength! He's not human!
Ah! Still can pick yourself up?
Wretch, hear this! I'm not human. I belong to the ghost clan of the Celestial Zone!
Celestial Zone? Ghost?
BOOM

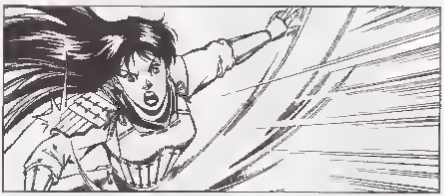
Trying to escape?
BONG

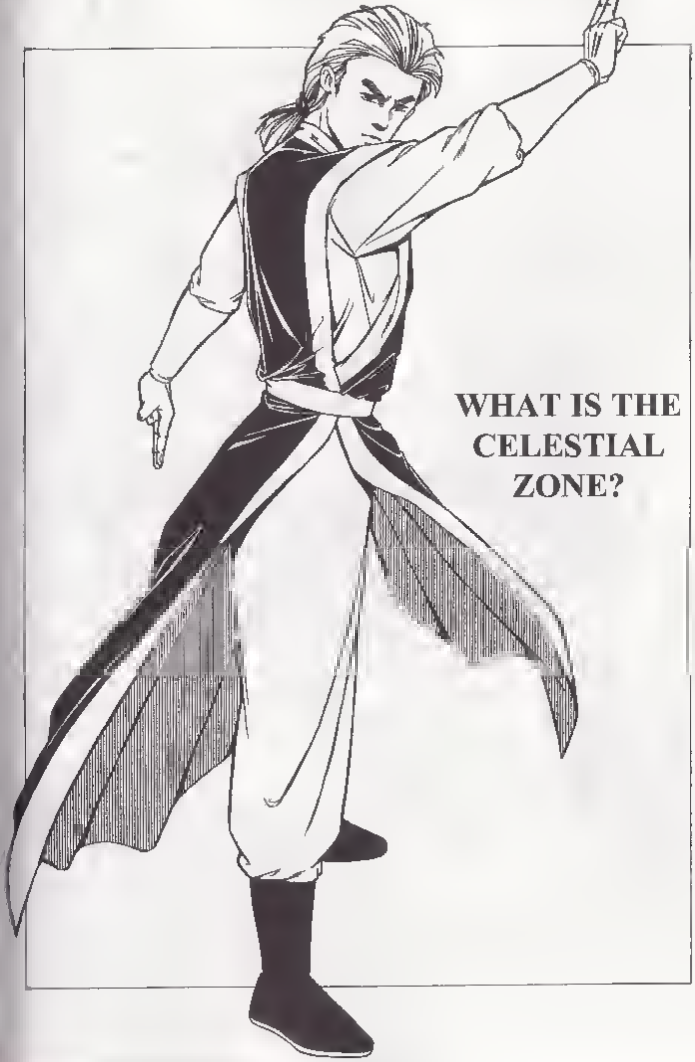
Ha! Got you at last!

One!
BOOM
Ha, ha! Once more!
FLOP
BOOM
Two!

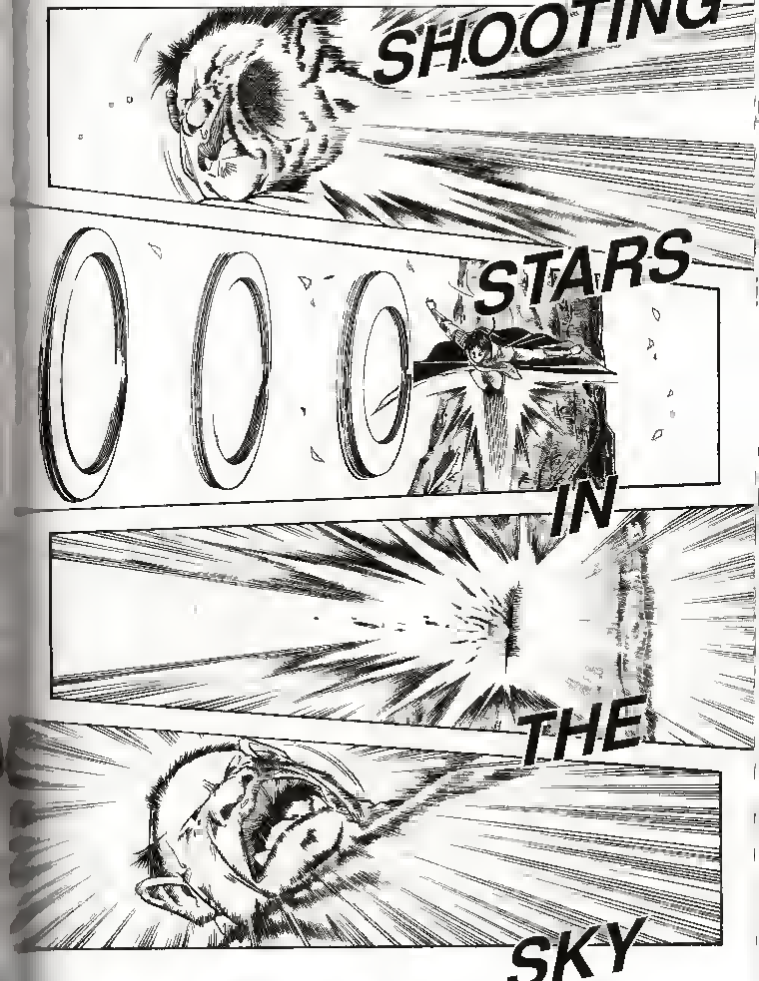
KRATSH!
Wretch! Let's see how much you can take!
Oh no! If this goes on, I'll die...!
SHUK
Three!

Quickening




WHAT IS THE
CELESTIAL
ZONE?

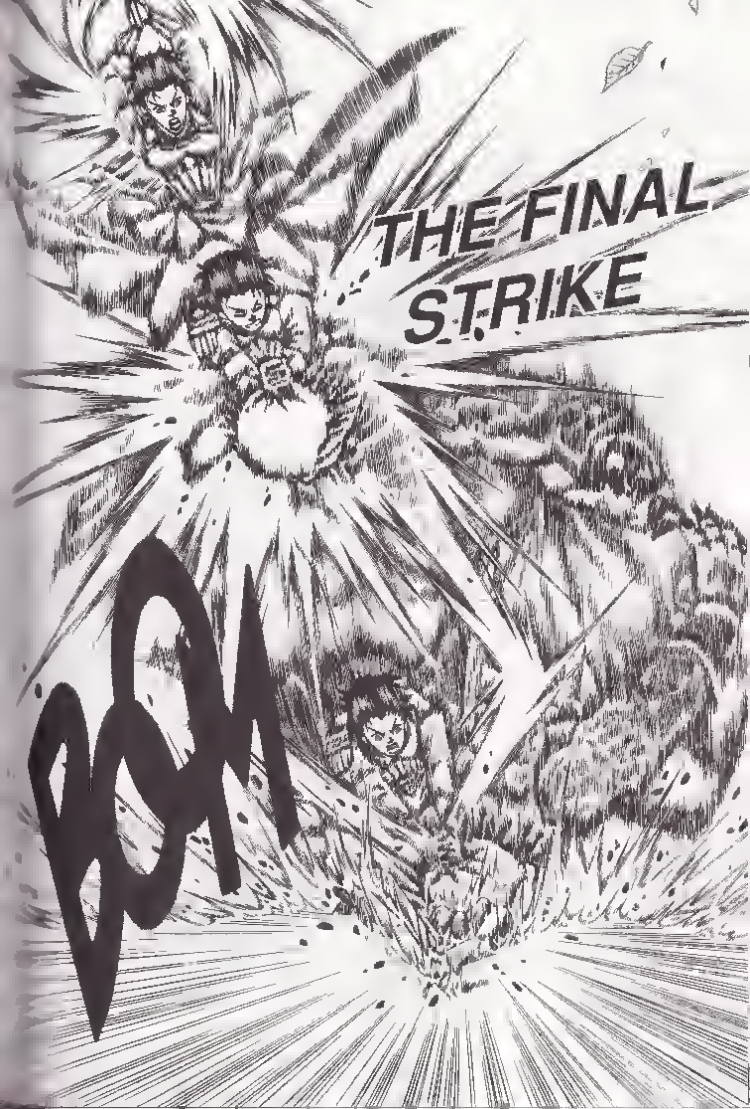
BAPP
SHUK
The Ultimate Significance


SHOOTING
STARS
IN
THE
SKY

BOOM
BOOM
FLOOP

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

SHOOTING STARS IN THE SKY
THE 49 STRIKES


THE FINAL STRIKE
BOOM

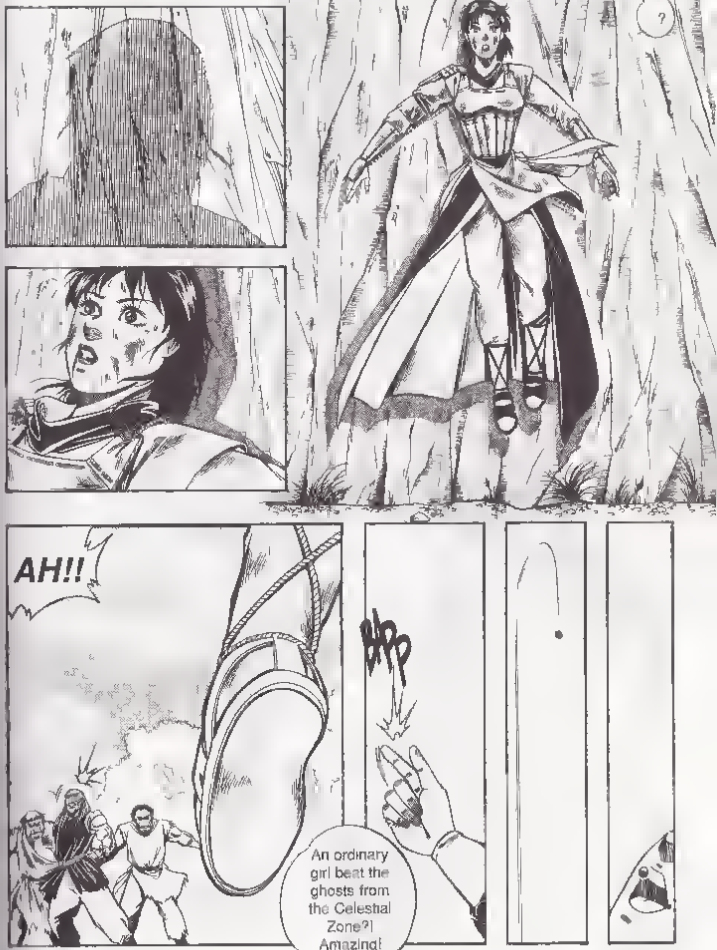
Pant... Pant... at last I've knocked him out... Ha! I've almost used up all my strength!
Ordinary men attacked by my Shooting Stars will be bedridden for at least six months
But... he has extraordinary strength! Strange! He's so strong and swift.
... yet in the martial arts world, I've never heard of such a man... Where does he come from?
Hey... he said he was from the Celestial Zone!
Celestial Zone?!

Hey! She's a tough fighter. Ho, ho, ho!
But Old Hair is such a shame to the ghost clan! Hee, hee!
...another few who don't look human!
Are you friends...? One, two, three... Ha! Three of you!
Oh no. Surely you're not going to...? Has the author given the story much thought?
Hee, hee... This girl makes me drool! Ho ho...!
Author protests...
This is vital to the story!
Huh! Since there's no choice... come on!

Hee, heel I won't underestimate my enemy like Old Hair did!
Flop
Flop
The Shooting Stars almost used up my strength just now
Given this situation I'll be a fool to stay!

Ho! This girl is really good at
fleeing!
Kick!
Hee hee! I'll catch you with my hands this time!
Ha! You're good at catching

Rrr! Chief! Don't let her... die so easily!
boop
boop
Ah! You woke up so soon? This time... I'm done for!
Wretch! You made me lose face!
Hee hee! What now? Beg me for mercy!
Ever seen the star in a comic begging for mercy? Idiot!
Ha! You won't? Then I'll break half of your bones!
loop


AH!!
BRP
An ordinary girl beat the ghosts from the Celestial Zone?! Amazing!

Hey! This shows that the ghosts are only scum in the evil realm!
Chan...it's been ages since I last exercised. Let me stage a one-man show!
Fine! I'll carry on eating my beans then

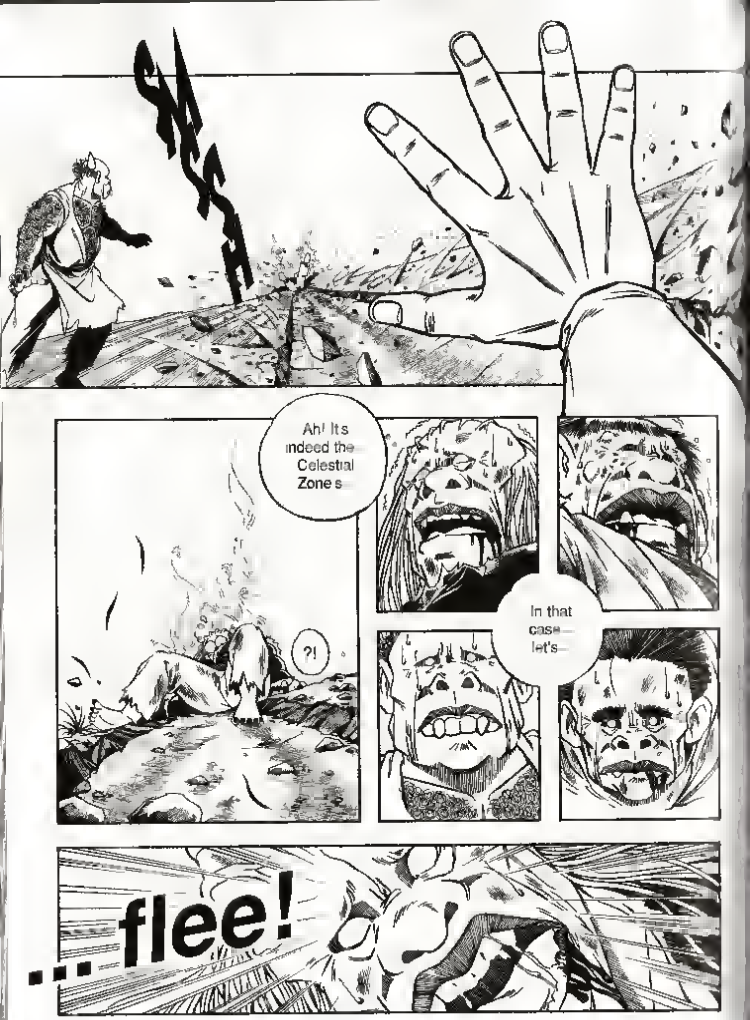
Rascal! How dare you call me scum! I'll rip you apart!
Wait! They seem to know a lot. They're not ordinary men...
Who cares! My blood is boiling!
Hop
Ho, ho! Here I come too!
Are you all right?
Ah... I'm fine thanks...

BOOM
Old... Old Hair...
He... comes from the Celestial Zone too...
You're no match for him. Move aside!

GHOST INCARNATION
Ah! Chief is serious this time...
Ah!... It's the Ghost Incarnation...!!
Ah! He is not an ordinary man...

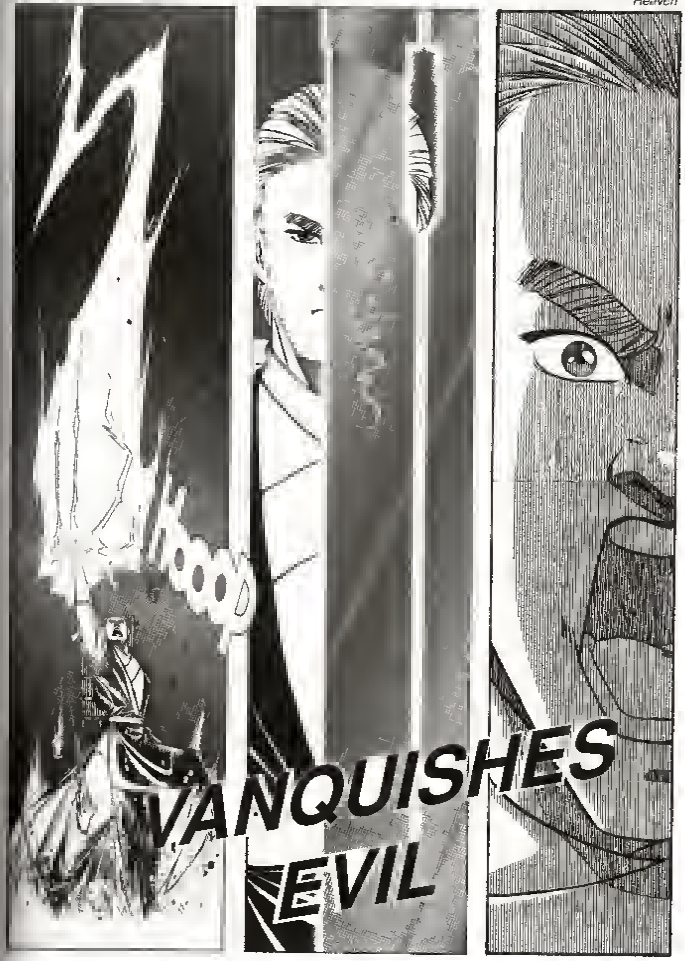
Hee hee! Good boy fear not! Count yourself lucky to die at my Ghost Incarnation!
You big bull with huge muscles! Can you take this stroke from me?
De... mon...!
Rrr! Go to Hell!
BAP

THUNDER-LIGHT VIBRATION
Hey! Can't even withstand a third of my strength!
Ha... this man... can generate... energy!

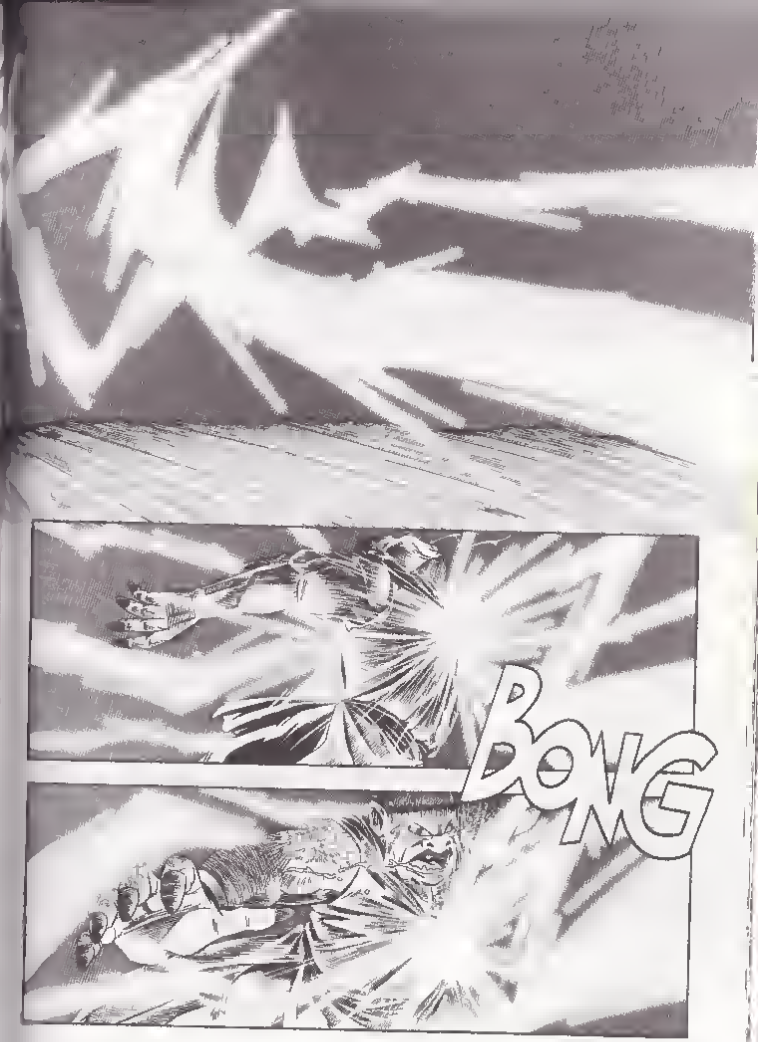

SLASH
Ah! It's indeed the Celestial Zone s-
?!
In that cas- let's-
...flee!

Running in different directions? Smart!
Hey, ghosts are really experts at taking flight!

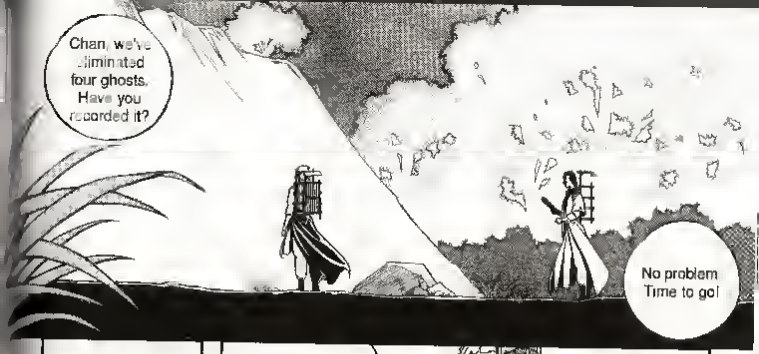
HEAVEN
But this is your just deserts for teking innocent lives!


VANQUISHES
EVIL

SWOOSH
KRACK


BONG

boop
boop
A flying sword...
No kidding. I'm fainting!
Retrieve!!
flop


Chan, we've eliminated four ghosts. Have you recorded it?
No problem. Time to go!

Wait a moment!

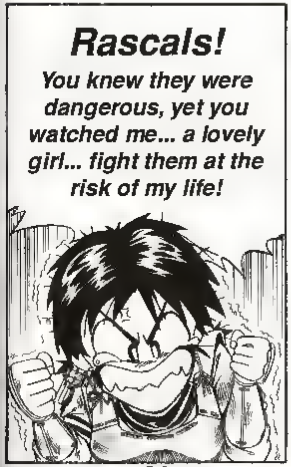
Er... your sword... you used a flying sword... to kill the cranks. Where is it now?
?

Back in my body. Of course you can't see it.

Back... back in your body? What is he talking about?

Senior Wu, ordinary mortals would faint upon seeing our celestial skills. She has impressive courage.

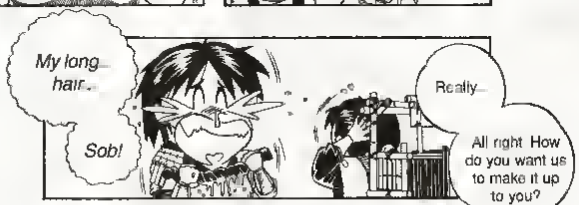
Celestial Zone? Celestial Zone again! What is Celestial Zone? Where do you and the old cranks come from?
Why do you possess magical powers?
Ha! We don't have magical powers! But you won't understand... Treat this as a dream and forget about it.
Hey, hey! Come back!
Fine! If you won't tell me, I'll follow you wherever you go!
What?! Hey! I'm a victim of your Celestial Zone! I have the right to know!
Ha! If we want to shake you off, you can never catch up!
Honestly you've impressed us. You're the first person to outfight the ghosts with a mortal's wisdom and strength! You're great!
Hmm...? Wait!
You saw me knocking out that fat pig? You were watching me?


Rascals!
You knew they were dangerous, yet you watched me... a lovely girl... fight them at the risk of my life!

We'd wanted to help but thought that you might win. Yet we didn't believe a mortal can defeat the powerful...

Rascals!
Utter rascals! You... look at my hair!

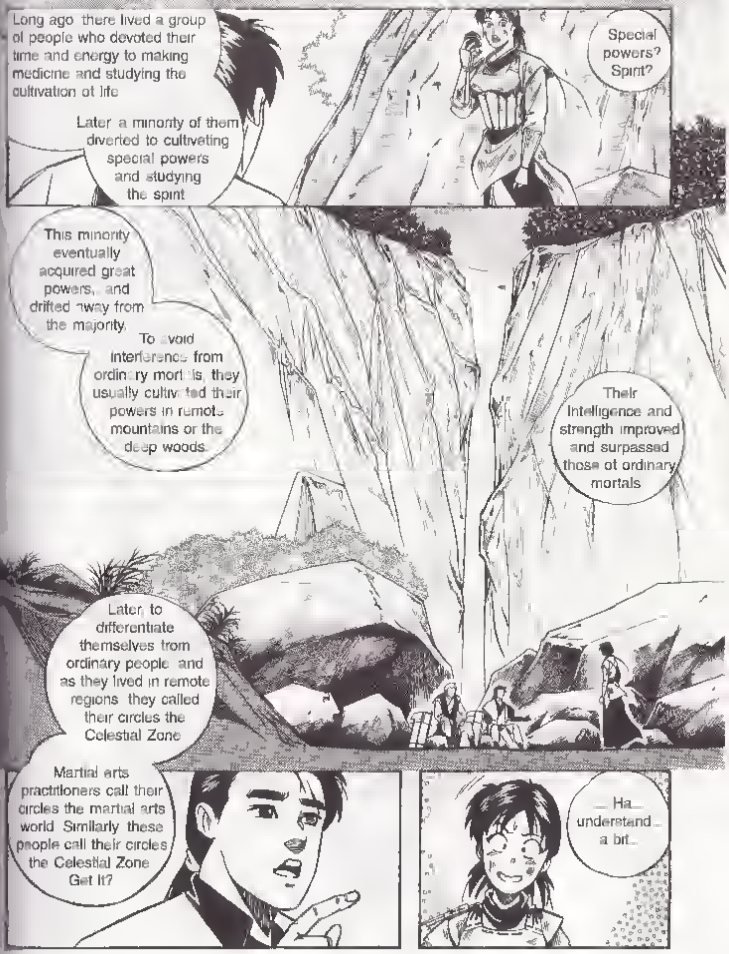
Sorry...


My long hair...
Sob!
Really...
All right. How do you want us to make it up to you?

Got it! Tell me everything about the Celestial Zone!

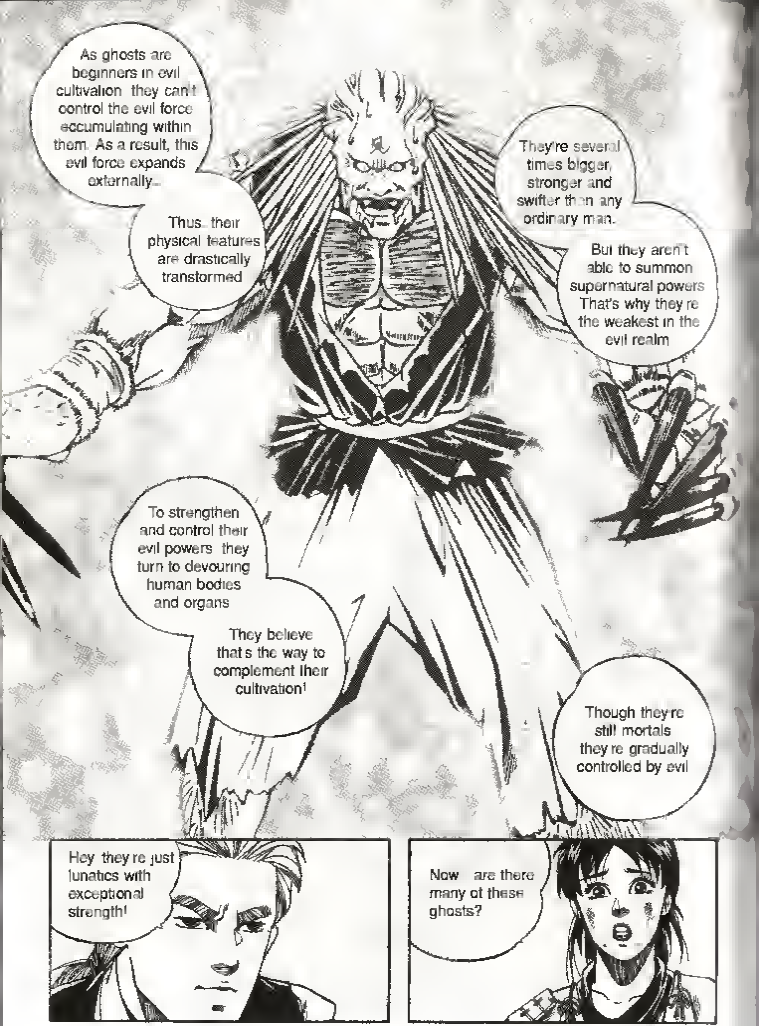
Wail! My beloved long hair! Wail!

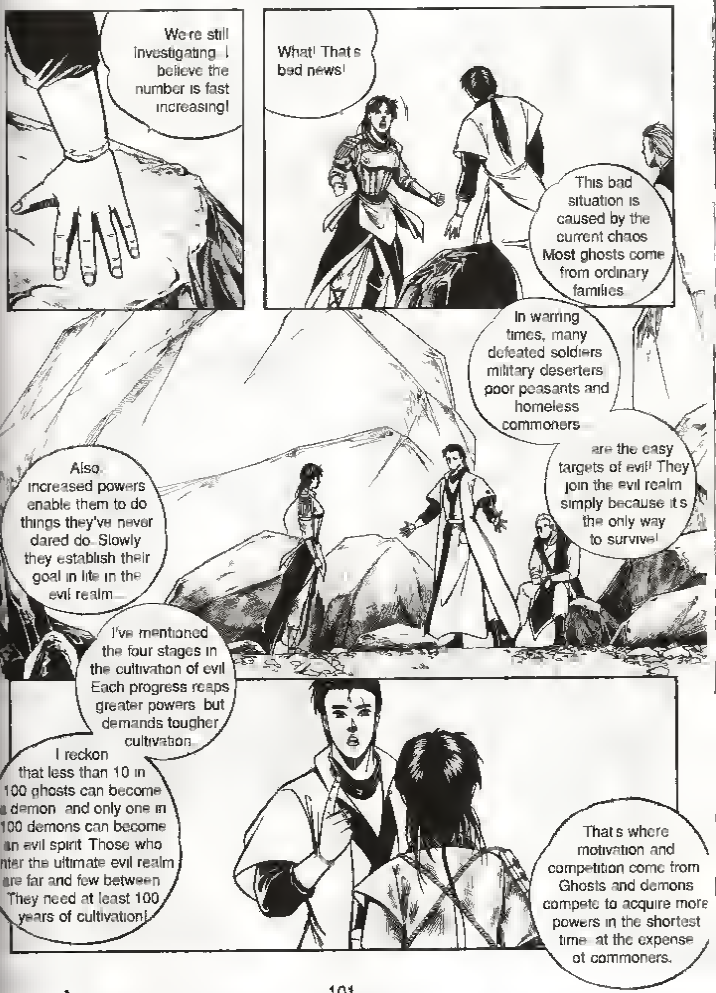
Wow! I m full!
Hey don t think you can save the explanation by giving me a treat!
Sigh.. even if we explain you might not understand Chan tell her briefly
How do you know I won t understand? *Gosh! This water is ice-cold!*
Putting it simply Celestial Zone is the name of the realm that holds all the activities of people pursuing the Way


Long ago there lived a group of people who devoted their time and energy to making medicine and studying the cultivation of life
Later a minority of them diverted to cultiveting special powers and studying the spirit
Special powers? Spirit?
This minority eventually acquired great powers, and drifted away from the majority.
To avoid interference from ordinary mortals, they usually cultivated their powers in remote mountains or the deep woods.
Their intelligence and strength improved and surpassed those of ordinary mortals
Later, to differentiate themselves from ordinary people and as they lived in remote regions, they called their circles the Celestial Zone
Martial arts practitioners call their circles the martial arts world. Similarly these people call their circles the Celestial Zone. Get it?
... Ha... understand... a bit...

Perhaps that's one of the ways they differ from ordinary mortals
Throughout the ages they've kept a distance from ordinary people hiding their existence well
All right explanation is over May we go now?
Wait! What do you mean by special powers and spirit? You can summon extraordinary strength What's that?
Those cranks were from the Celestial Zone too How come they looked so different from you?
They are evil... so you're good?
Your hand can give off light and send a flying sword Are you the legendary Immortals or Sword Deities?
Sigh... you're an ordinary mortal You'd better not probe
Hey!Don't you immortals talk about affinity? I've suffered because of the Celestial Zone and you've told me so much Isn't there an affinity between us?

Ha! Right destiny brought us together. I'll tell you more.
First, we're not immortals or deities. We're ordinary people with specially cultivated abilities powerful enough to subdue enemies.
Those weird giants were from the Celestial Zone too. But they were ghosts from the evil realm.
True. They called themselves ghosts.
After centuries in the Celestial Zone, these unusual beings split into two groups with differing attitudes. They've become the good and the evil.
There are four stages of cultivation in the evil realm, namely ghosts, demons, evil spirits and the ultimate evil. Ghosts are the lowliest and weakest.
Ha, ha... the weakest...


As ghosts are beginners in evil cultivation they can't control the evil force accumulating within them. As a result, this evil force expands externally...
Thus, their physical features are drastically transformed
They're several times bigger, stronger and swifter than any ordinary man.
But they aren't able to summon supernatural powers. That's why they're the weakest in the evil realm
To strengthen and control their evil powers, they turn to devouring human bodies and organs
They believe that's the way to complement their cultivation!
Though they're still mortals, they're gradually controlled by evil
Hey, they're just lunatics with exceptional strength!
Now, are there many of these ghosts?


We're still investigating. I believe the number is fast increasing!
What! That's bad news!
This bad situation is caused by the current chaos. Most ghosts come from ordinary families.
In warring times, many defeated soldiers, military deserters, poor peasants and homeless commoners
are the easy targets of evil! They join the evil realm simply because it's the only way to survive!
Also, increased powers enable them to do things they've never dared do. Slowly they establish their goal in life in the evil realm...
I've mentioned the four stages in the cultivation of evil. Each progress reaps greater powers, but demands tougher cultivation.
I reckon that less than 10 in 100 ghosts can become a demon, and only one in 100 demons can become an evil spirit. Those who enter the ultimate evil realm are far and few between. They need at least 100 years of cultivation!
That's where motivation and competition come from. Ghosts and demons compete to acquire more powers in the shortest time, at the expense of commoners.

Scum! Are you going to let those lunatics have their way?
Of course not! That's one of the reasons why we left our abode.
Hm... I've explained more than enough. As for the light and flying sword... they're beyond your comprehension.
But I can demonstrate once more
It's a way of using supernatural powers

Ha, ha... Enough. It's already confusing me. Celestial Zone is beyond my imagination.
Ha! I've never lost any of my hundreds of fights. But compared to you, I'm as vulnerable as a kid.
Sigh... Though I wish to understand more, I should know my own limits. There's too big a gap between our strengths.
Celestial scores should be settled by celestial beings. Work hard!
I'll carry on my travels in the martial arts world. Farewell!
Oops! Before I go, can you tell me how to get to Prosperity Town?
Cross this valley and walk straight for two hours. You'll come to a junction. Take the left route. You'll get there by tomorrow evening.

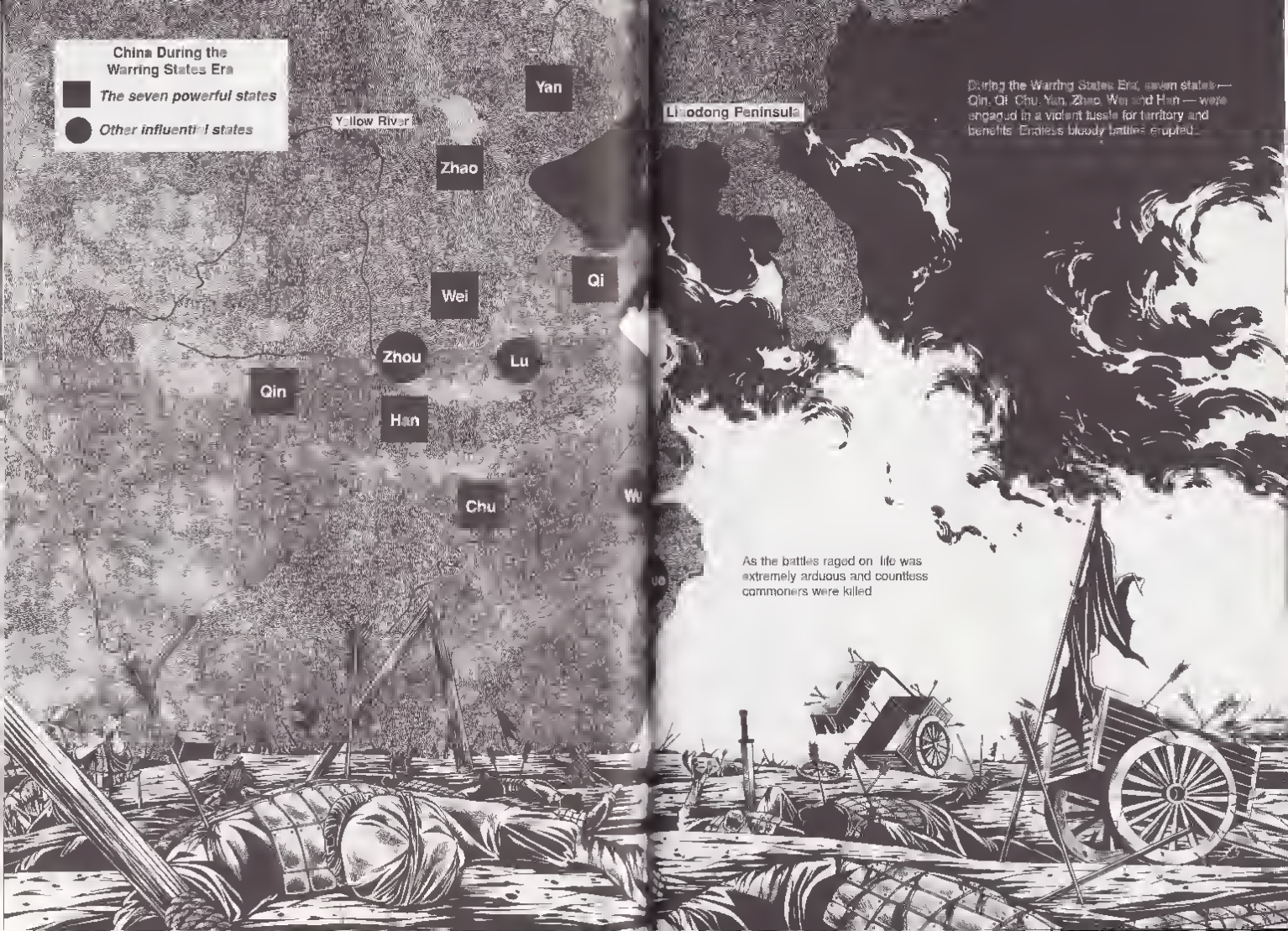
Oh... junction... turn left...
Got it! Thank you! And where are you going?
Our direction is opposite yours. We'll be taking the route to the right. But first, we have something to settle here...
My name is Wang Chan. He's my senior Xue Wu.
My name is Xing Ling, meaning joyful and agile.
Pleased to meet you.
All right, let's part here. Ha, ha! We'll meet again if fate decrees so!
Right, let destiny decide. Take care!

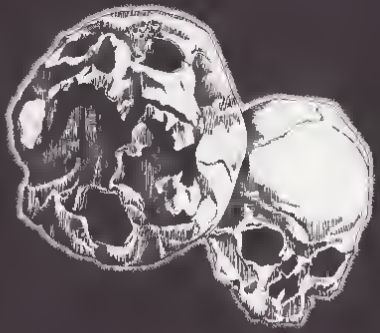
Hm, ha! An adorable girl with a very special aura! Chan, why didn't you make her your disciple?
I decided against it because of her special aura.
She's not somebody whom we're good enough to tutor.
Really?
She's the second person I've met with such a special aura.
Oh? The other person is...
She strikes terror in all evil beings... the Destroyer of Evil, Chi Xue?
That's right.
Senior, I have a hunch that if this girl joins the Celestial Zone, she'll be Chi Xue's equal to inspire fear in all evil creatures!
Xing Ling!

Ha... choo!
Ha... choo!
Who's talking about me?

Quickening

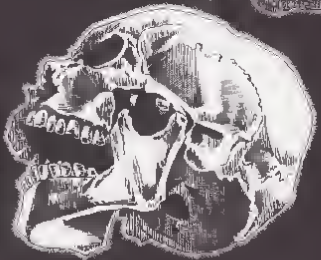
IS THIS FATE?


China During the Warring States Era
The seven powerful states
Other influential states
Yellow River
Yan
Zhao
Wei
Qi
Zhou
Lu
Qin
Han
Chu
Liaodong Peninsula
During the Warring States Era, seven states— Qin, Qi, Chu, Yan, Zhao, Wei and Han — were engaged in a violent tussle for territory and benefits. Endless bloody battles erupted...
As the battles raged on, life was extremely arduous and countless commoners were killed



Spirits gathered in numbers
Evil forces fed upon this
appalling bloodshed and
grew in strength

The evil forces were highly
destructive and their
strength increased rapidly!
Besides enduring the
ravages of war, the people
had to guard against these
fiends that possessed
special powers. .



In this age of darkness, a group of
young Taoists slowly emerged to
engage the evil forces in a decisive
battle between good and evil .

These righteous youths gave their
all to protect the flustered
commoners..

Our story evolves from
this darkness...

That's weird Isn't this road supposed to take me to Prosperity Town by the second evening?
I've been walking for three days and have yet to meet a single soul
Who knows if that Wang Chan really knows the way ?
Hair cut by herself
I I really have no money

Hey, kid, get smart and hand your money over!!!
I'm sorry... I'm sorry...
Humph! I've got to work, don't waste my time. Surrender your valuables!!
Ha... frankly, these two bags of chess pieces, this tattered fan and this gourd are all I have.
Ha, ha! Do you take me for a fool? From your dressing, anyone can tell you are well-to-do. Trying to pull a fast one?
This... this was left by my master, I can't... can't...
Looks like I have to get tough before you'll cooperate...
Hey! Are you robbing him?!

Wretch! This is none of your business. Get lost or I'll bash you up too!
Get lost or I'll bash you up too!
Fear not my friend! What's going on?
Not so simple! See, you've ruined my shoes! How am I to work without shoes?!
How am I to work without shoes?!
Ha... It's all my fault. I was thinking of a new chess move while walking along and stepped on his toes by accident.
I'm really sorry. What should I

Ah...
Forget it. I'll pay for my friend.

But don't think I do not know your tricks!
If I see you repeating this stunt on others,
... especially in front of kids, you'll get it from me!!
BAG

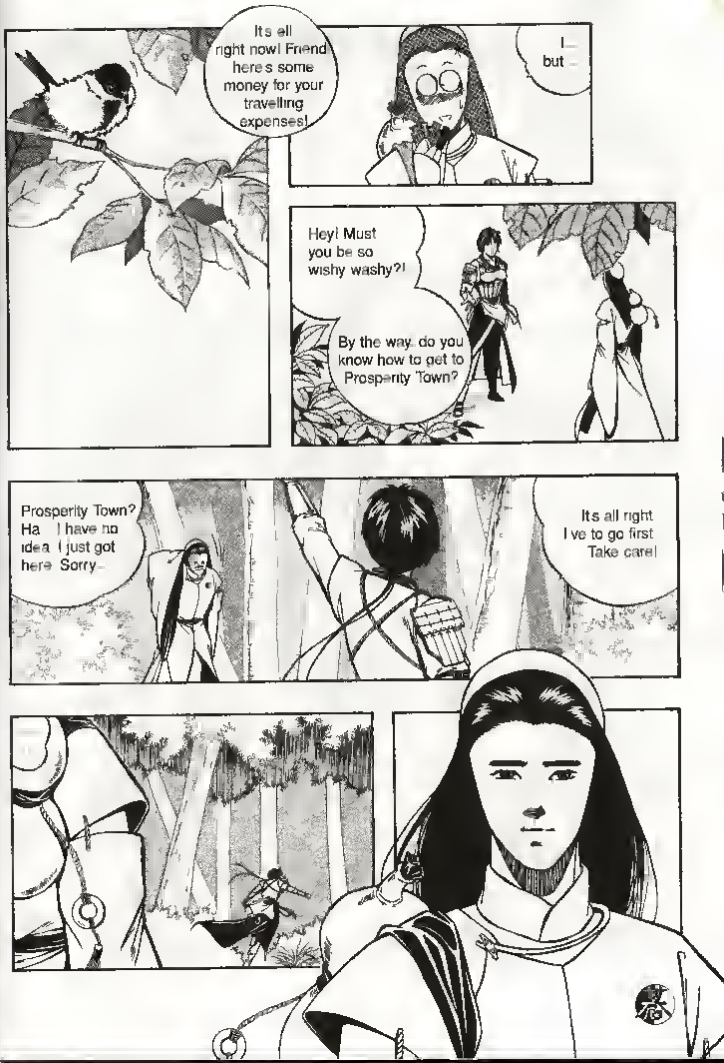
Note: To facilitate the rapid development of trade, the various dukedoms had issued several currencies differing in appearance and value.

Qi and Yan issued the knife currency

Han, Zhao and Wei used shovel shaped cloth currency

Zhou and Qin issued circular coins

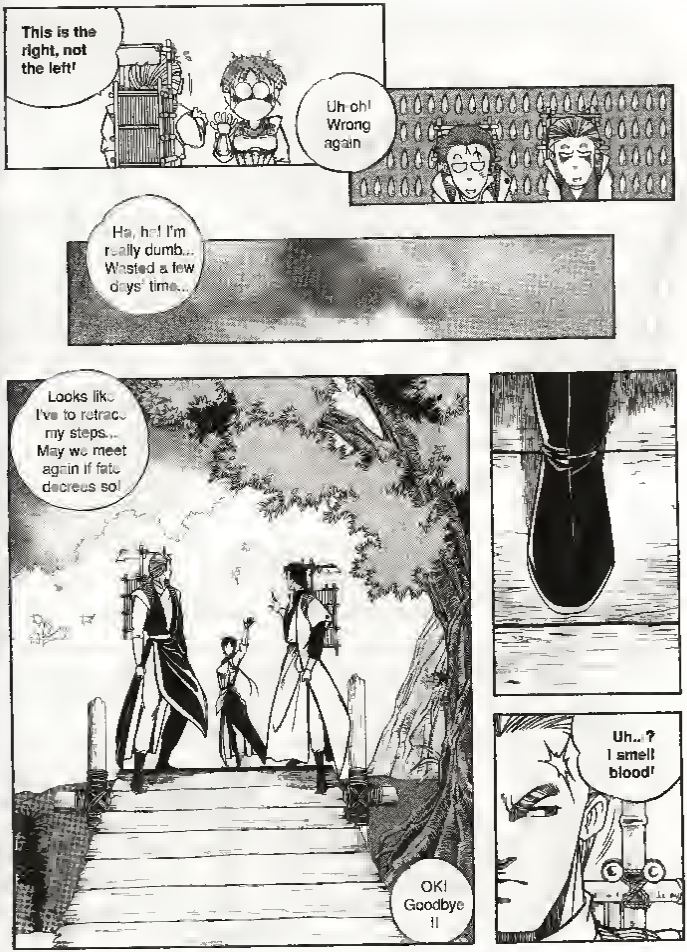
Chu used *yuan* money (a flat squarish piece of gold), bronze shells and *shubudang* cloth money

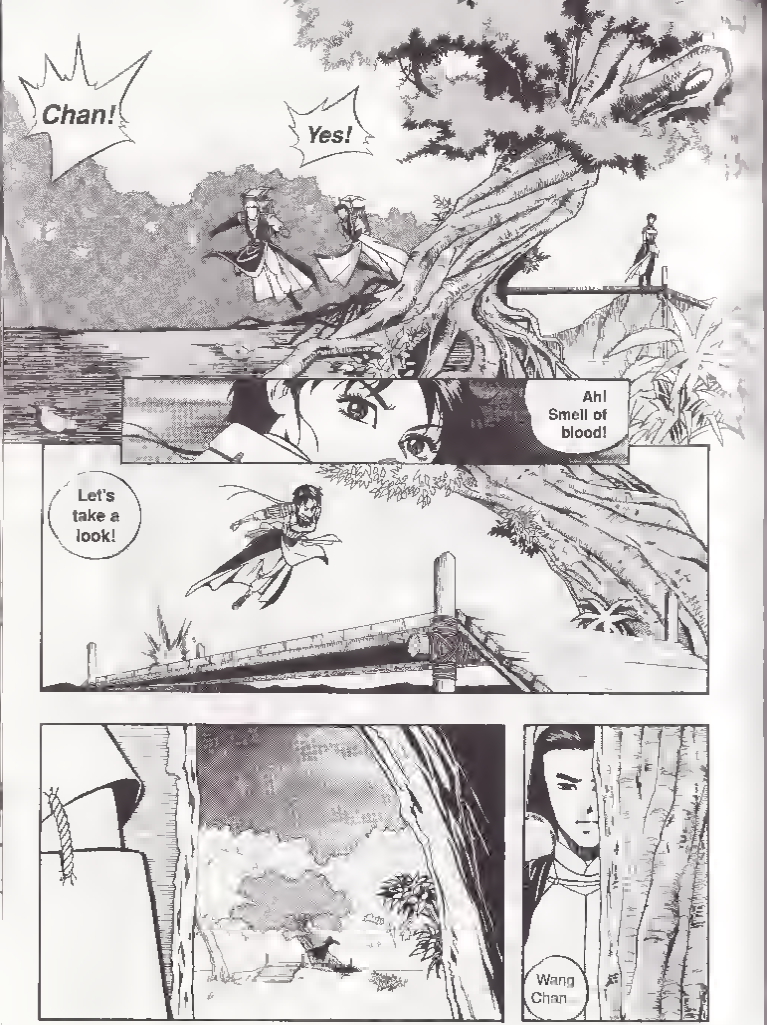

It's all right now! Friend here's some money for your travelling expenses!
I— but—
Hey! Must you be so wishy washy?!
By the way, do you know how to get to Prosperity Town?
Prosperity Town? Ha... I have no idea. I just got here. Sorry—
It's all right I've to go first Take care!

Pant! How come I still don't see anyone after such a long journey?
Hey, friend! Wait up!
Hey, wait...
Huh?!

Ah Xing Ling ?
Hey how come you're here? Weren't you going in the opposite direction?
That's right! You should have taken the left lane while we take the right
Right, but why do we meet here?
You said I'll reach Prosperity Town by the second evening if I take the left lane
Just a second... You are pointing to the right not the left!
Right—? Isn't this my left hand? How come it's my right—?

This is your right hand, not your left
Oh this is my right
Ha, ha! Oh dear, I've mixed up left and right again
To think we'll meet again! Looks like we're really fated
Ha... is this fate ?
Xing Ling what are you going to do now?
Sigh! No choice. I've to retrace my steps on this left lane

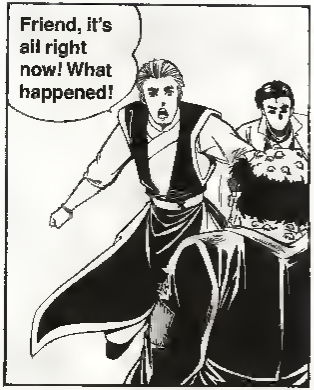

This is the right, not the left!
Uh oh! Wrong again
Ha, ha! I'm really dumb... Wasted a few days' time...
Looks like I've to retrace my steps... May we meet again if fate decrees so!
OK! Goodbye !!
Uh..? I smell blood!

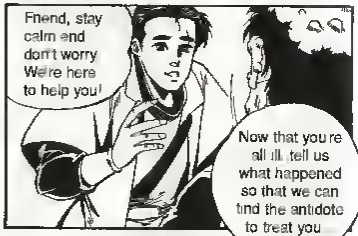

Chan!
Yes!
Ah! Smell of blood!
Let's take a look!
Wang Chan

Ah ..!

Chan...how come...
They've been poisoned Brother Wu lets give them a Green Dew Restorative Pill each!
OK
Wang Chan give me some of your whatever pills I'll help you!

Pant It's finally done
Thirty-five dead 126 hurt
Chan, are they all right now? What happened?
They're out of danger for the time being As for the rest I'm not sure We'll have to wait for them to come round and tell us
Ah
Ah Finished finished


Friend, it's all right now! What happened!


Friend, stay calm and don't worry We're here to help you!
Now that you're all ill, tell us what happened so that we can find the antidote to treat you

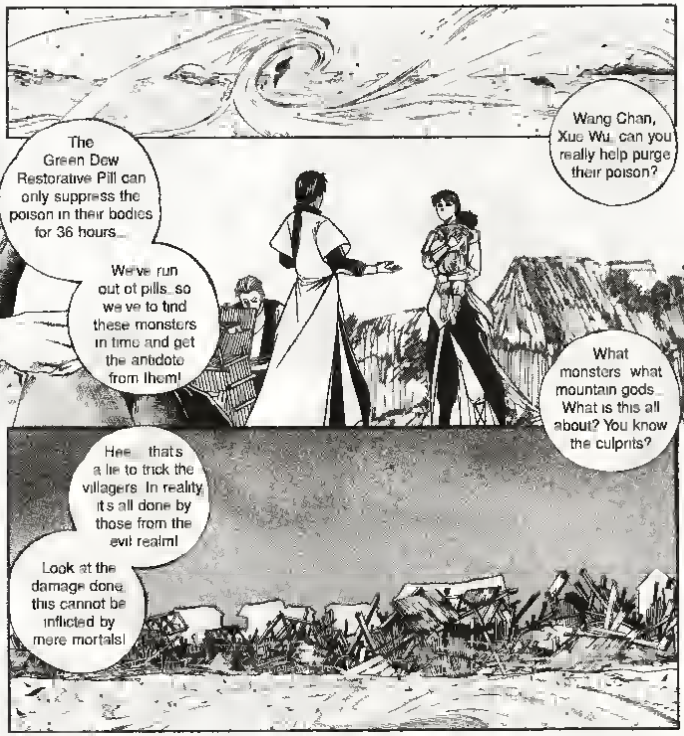
No... I can't tell you... or those monsters will wipe out our entire village

Hey, even if you keep mum, not many of you will survive for long!

Ah...
Friend, fear not, we'll protect you. What happened?

Ah... Monsters... monsters from the mountains. They wanted to wipe out the entire village!
Monsters! What kind of monsters! Why did they want to harm...
... monsters that know sorcery. Food supplies, our food
Don't panic, speak slowly...
Every... every year, we give part of our harvest to our landlord as rent and to the officials as tax payment... What's left is already insufficient...
But in recent years these monsters came and demanded our grains

They're formidable... and cruel... We've no choice but to give them... the little we have...
But... this year there wasn't enough rain... harvest was poor... there's no way to give them... so they looted all our possessions...
Your poison
They said... if we disobey them... the mountain gods will punish us... After killing some of us, they said half the villagers will develop tumours and die after three agonising days and nights...
If the rest of us can't deliver the goods... we'll meet the same end... We're done for...
This is too much!!
Don't worry, we'll think of a way to help you! You'll be all right in the meantime... so take a good rest!


Wang Chan, Xue Wu, can you really help purge their poison?
The Green Dew Restorative Pill can only suppress the poison in their bodies for 36 hours...
We've run out of pills, so we've to find these monsters in time and get the antidote from them!
What monsters, what mountain gods... What is this all about? You know the culprits?
Hee... that's a lie to trick the villagers. In reality it's all done by those from the evil realm!
Look at the damage done, this cannot be inflicted by mere mortals!

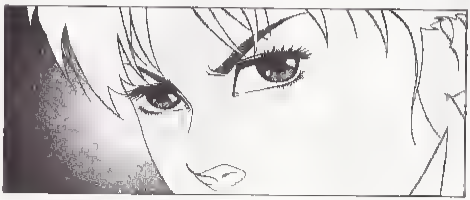
Jerks! Them again! Great, how do we find them?

Ah! Xing Ling, aren't you on your way to Prosperity Town?

Ha... actually... I've no special reason for going there...
I heard it's a bustling exciting town with many fun and pretty things on sale. I only wanted to go take a look
But... I don't feel like going anymore!
I think I should stay and help these villagers!
Hey... let me help you. OK?
Ha ha! You're welcome as long as you're not afraid
Great, let's go! The dust hasn't settled so they can't have gone far!
Moreover, why should I fear those ghosts with you two around?
No! What we're up against are not mere ghosts but demons with greater evil power

See the destruction. It can't be inflicted by those dim-witted ghosts!
This is the work of demons with great evil power!
You should consider carefully...
Great evil power demons

Quickening



End of TCZ Volume 01

The Celestial Zone

Bandit of Bandits 1

Written & Illustrated by
WEE TIAN BENG

An Astapac Publication

The Celestial Zone

Bandit of Bandits 1

This series relates the camaraderie and heart-stopping exploits of an extraordinary group of people during the tumultuous Warring States Era. Living in a world of their own — a place known as the Celestial Zone — they worked on cultivating special powers beyond the comprehension of mere mortals. Unfortunately, one group branched into the cultivation of evil power and the showdown between two opposing forces began .

The story opened with Xing Ling, a gutsy young lady with excellent skills, fighting bandits and protecting commoners. However, even she found her match — ghosts, the lowliest and weakest beings in the evil realm of the Celestial Zone.

Fortunately, Wang Chan and Xue Wu came to her aid. Xing Ling was dazzled by their superb skills. They had emerged from seclusion to deal with beings from the evil realm that were proliferating at a frightening speed.

She was to witness the horrifying prowess of these monsters unleashed upon an entire village.

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